

# VIETNAM COURIER

December 16  
1968  
No. 195  
5th Year

Information Weekly - E.O. 146 Tran Hung Dao Street, Hanoi - Democratic Republic of Viet Nam

- \* 22th anniversary of the Nation-wide Resistance against French colonialists (Dec. 19)
- \* 24th anniversary of the founding of the Viet Nam People's Army (Dec. 22)
- \* 8th anniversary of the founding of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation (Dec. 20)

**"SO LONG AS A SINGLE AGGRESSOR  
REMAINS IN OUR COUNTRY, WE MUST CON-  
TINUE THE FIGHT AND WIPE HIM OUT,"**

(From President Ho Chi Minh's  
Nov. 3, 1968 appeal)

## THE NFL PRODIGIOUS ARCHITECT AND LEADER OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM REVOLUTION

**E**IGHT years ago, on December 20, 1960, in a liberated area of South Viet Nam, the NFL was founded.

It was the natural outcome of a long and hard struggle waged by various sections of the South Vietnamese people for national independence, democratic liberties and for survival. As a matter of fact, since 1954 the dictatorial, fascist regime of the Ngo Dinh Diem family, installed in Saigon by the U.S. imperialists to serve their neo-colonialist purposes, had rendered life unbearable for the vast majority of the people. Former Resistance fighters were massacred on mass in disregard of the express provisions of the Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam. Peasants were evicted from the land allotted by people's power during the first Resistance. Workers and the have-nots in the cities were victims of unemployment and the soaring cost of living. National bourgeois were hurt in their business by the dumping of unsold U.S. goods. Life was also a burden for religious sects, ethnic minorities, youth, women, intellectuals, democratic personalities, progressives and all patriots disgusted by violence and corruption which had become national sports, by subservience to U.S. imperialism, cultural and social degradation, etc.... The cup was full with the promulgation of Law 10/1959 on special military tribunals. These were empowered to pass only two kinds of sentence-death penalty or life imprisonment,

and could, within 24 hours, upon simple denunciation, sentence to death and order the execution of anyone suspected of only the intent to commit a crime against "the security of the State".

The struggle, sporadic at first, grew into mass actions, known as "Dong Khoi" or simultaneous uprisings. These liberated some areas, first in the Mekong Delta, then virtually everywhere across the country. The need for co-ordination among different movements and various liberated areas becoming imperative, the NFL came into existence.

Right at its birth, on December 20, 1960, the Front represented a political force rallying in its ranks all political parties and mass organizations and all social strata, and a material force controlling areas freed from enemy rule, arms self-defence groups and organs exercising in fact the functions of an administration.

With a 10-point programme of action answering to the deepest aspirations and the essential rights of the people which, by its inspiration, constitutes a force of immeasurable magnitude, the NFL has turned out to be the prodigious leader of the South Viet Nam Revolution and architect of all its achievements.

**T**HE founding of the NFL indeed marked the starting point of an extremely important stage of the South Viet Nam Revolution, that of continued offensives and repeated successes.

Under the sound leadership of the Front our Southern compatriots, developing the traditions of national union of our people and applying the experiences accumulated during centuries and especially during the years 1945-1954 in the fight against foreign aggression, have built up political and military forces capable of thwarting all U.S. imperialist schemes.

From the beginning of 1961 to mid-1965, after having completely failed the latter's manoeuvres aimed at realising their neo-colonialist designs through the agency of the dictatorial, fascist regime of the Ngo Dinh Diem family, the South Vietnamese armed forces and people frustrated different pacification plans worked out by Washington—the Staley-Taylor plan, the

(Continued page 7)



Luuyes Nguyen Huu Tho, Chairman  
of the NFL Central Committee

## NFL role decisive in any South Viet Nam Political Settlement

**I**N May 1954, at the Geneva Conference on Indochina, pro-American French Foreign Minister G. Bidault termed the Viet Minh, i.e. Vietnamese patriots represented by the DRVN Government, "phantoms". Yet those phantoms were the very victors at Dien Bien Phu of the French colonialists supported by the American interventionists and would soon afterward force them to sign the Geneva Agreements.

The writing on the wall however does not seem to have been seen by the U.S. imperialists. They committed the same blunder as their French allies in unleashing their aggressive war against Viet Nam, starting from the Southern part of the country. Flouting the Geneva Agreements, they schemed to turn South Viet Nam into U.S. neo-colony and military base. They used hangman Ngo Dinh Diem to quell with violence the aspirations to

independence, democracy and peace nurtured by the South Vietnamese people of all walks of life - peasants, workers as well as intellectuals, members of religious sects in the Mekong delta as well as ethnic minorities in the High Plateaux. They only forgot this law of history: where there is oppression, there is resistance to oppression. Comrade Le Duan, First Secretary of the Viet Nam

(Continued page 3)

Page 4

Landmarks since 1960 in the PLAF  
march towards complete victory

Page 5

Revolutionary power  
strengthened in South Viet Nam

Page 6

The NFL just cause has won  
world progressives' sympathy

## NFL CONFAB DELEGATION APPOINTED

THE President of the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation has appointed a delegation of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation to the Paris Conference on Viet Nam.

- The delegation comprises:
1. Tran Bau Kiem, member of the President, Chairman of the Commission for External Relations of the Central Committee of the NFL, Head of the Committee on Viet Nam.
  2. Professor Nguyen Thi Binh, Deputy Head of the Central Committee of the NFL, Deputy Head of the Committee on Viet Nam.
  3. Tran Hoi Nam, member of the Central Committee of the NFL, Deputy Head.
  4. Nguyen Van Tien, member of the Central Committee of the NFL, Deputy Head.
  5. Mesa Do Thi Day, member of the NFL Committee for the Saigon - Gia Dinh area, member;
  6. Tran Van Tu, Head of the Permanent Representation of the NFL to the Polish People's Republic, member.
  7. Dinh Ba Thi, Head of the Permanent Representation of the NFL to the Hungarian People's Republic, member.
  8. Dang Van Thau, high-ranking officer of the South Viet Nam People's Liberation Armed Forces, member.

(Dec 10, 1968 NFL CC. Communiqué)

## NFL ROLE DECISIVE

(Continued from page 1)

Workers' Party wrote in its article "Forward with the glorious banner of the October Revolution":

"In 1959-1960, while the U.S. imperialists and their valets were using the most vicious fascist methods to sow terror and perpetrate massacres in series, South Vietnamese revolutionaries held that the enemy had sustained a fundamental political defeat and was no longer in a position to maintain his rule over the country; popular masses acquired an increasingly clear realization that they could no longer survive under the enemy's yoke and that they had to rise up in a life-and-death struggle to liberate themselves."

Amidst the turmoil of popular actions, Dec. 30, 1965 the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation came into being with its historic ten-point programme of action which was intended to be completed and became the Front's official Political Programme in August 1967.

Under the leadership of the NFL, the South Viet Nam people and armed forces have since been winning victory after victory and driving the U.S. aggressors and their lackeys into an ever deteriorating predicament.

Early in 1965, under the impact of their powerful offensive, the total collapse of the Saigon puppet regime was but a question of time. The U.S. imperialists realized that their "special war" to a war waged with local mercenaries armed, financed, advised and directed by them no longer worked. They hurriedly committed the Expeditionary Corps to a "limited war" in South Viet Nam, the biggest of its kind in the history of the United States. To camouflage this naked aggression, the White House

## 1.—UNITE THE ENTIRE PEOPLE, FIGHT THE U.S. AGGRESSORS, SAVE THE COUNTRY.

## II.—BUILD AN INDEPENDENT, DEMOCRATIC, PEACEFUL, NEUTRAL, AND PROSPEROUS SOUTH VIET NAM.

- 1.—To set up a broad and progressive democratic regime.
- 2.—To build an independent and self-supporting economy; to improve the people's living conditions.
- 3.—To enact the land policy; to cancel the land dues; land to the tiller.
- 4.—To build a national democratic culture and education, to develop science and technology, to promote public health.
- 5.—To guarantee the interests of factory and office workers and other labouring people and see to their livelihood.
- 6.—To build up South Viet Nam liberation armed forces powerfully with a view to

## III.—TO RESTORE NORMAL RELATIONS BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH VIET NAM; PRO- CEED TOWARD PEACE AND REUNIFICATION OF THE FATHERLAND.

- 1.—To strengthen unity; to practice equality and mutual assistance among nationalities.
- 2.—To practice freedom of creed, to achieve unity and equality among the different religious communities.
- 3.—To welcome puppet officers and soldiers and puppet officials back to the just cause; show leniency

## IV.—TO APPLY A FOREIGN POLICY OF PEACE AND NEUTRAL- ITY.

(passed in Aug. 1967)

liberating the people and defending the fatherland.

7.—To show gratitude to the martyrs, to attend to the disabled army-men, to reward the army-men and civilians distinguished in the fight against U.S. aggression and for national salvation.

## POLITICAL PROGRAMME of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation

(summary)

- 1.—To set up a broad and progressive democratic regime.
- 2.—To build an independent and self-supporting economy; to improve the people's living conditions.
- 3.—To enact the land policy; to cancel the land dues; land to the tiller.
- 4.—To build a national democratic culture and education, to develop science and technology, to promote public health.
- 5.—To guarantee the interests of factory and office workers and other labouring people and see to their livelihood.
- 6.—To build up South Viet Nam liberation armed forces powerfully with a view to

## III.—TO RESTORE NORMAL RELATIONS BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH VIET NAM; PRO- CEED TOWARD PEACE AND REUNIFICATION OF THE FATHERLAND.

- 1.—To strengthen unity; to practice equality and mutual assistance among nationalities.
- 2.—To practice freedom of creed, to achieve unity and equality among the different religious communities.
- 3.—To welcome puppet officers and soldiers and puppet officials back to the just cause; show leniency

## IV.—TO APPLY A FOREIGN POLICY OF PEACE AND NEUTRAL- ITY.

(passed in Aug. 1967)

liberating the people and defending the fatherland.

7.—To show gratitude to the martyrs, to attend to the disabled army-men, to reward the army-men and civilians distinguished in the fight against U.S. aggression and for national salvation.

## "Ten" extra million metres of cloth for South Viet Nam" emulation drive

KHA VANG CAN  
Minister for Light Industry

THE DRVN Government's decision to protect the South Vietnamese people with 50,000 tons of rice, to 10 million metres of cloth and 100 tons of medicines has given a fresh impetus to the emulation movement called "Ten extra million metres of cloth for South Viet Nam" among all Viet Nam textile workers. The drive is essentially a broad mass movement inspired by a deep sense of duty towards the resistance to U.S. aggression, for national salvation, the sense of responsibility for the people's well-being and the heartfelt affection for kindred South Viet Nam. The textile branch has a long-established tradition of revolutionary struggle with the actions of the Nam Dinh textile workers in 1930 and during the first Indochina War and their heroic fight against U.S. destructive air attacks in the last few years. Enthusiasm for the generalised attacks and simultaneous uprisings of the South Vietnamese armed forces and people since early this year through the raising of labour productivity and the 1966 State plan (already made harder by many difficulties in the way of war of destruction) and at the same time exceed it at least by 10 million metres of cloth.

Although they are operating in dispersion which has caused their production and production chain, textile establishments have readjusted their production to war-time, and made it less cumbersome and highly efficient while ensuring coupling it with the fighting and insuring its safety through good air defence precautions.

In the course of the emulation movement, textile establishments at central and regional level have devised varied and multiple methods to effectively impel it forward. Among the methods are "valiant fighter of Dacta" or "valiant fighter of Khe Sanh" distinction in production or "to do an additional 50,000 jobs for South Viet Nam".

Apart from its political significance, the "Ten Extra million metres of cloth for South Viet Nam" movement is also a grim effort to surmount the planned shortages through the raising of labour productivity and the 1966 State plan (already made harder by many difficulties in the way of war of destruction) and at the same time exceed it at least by 10 million metres of cloth.

## Three U.S. planes downed over North Viet Nam in one day

ON Dec. 9, the people's armed forces of the DRVN shot down three U.S. "Crusader" and an F-4 "Phantom" — over two provinces south of the 17th parallel, and an unmanned reconnaissance plane over Haiphong.

On Dec. 12, a pilotless plane was knocked down over Hanoi and the next day another one was brought down over Thanh Hoa, bringing the total to eight shot down over the DRVN since August 5, 1964 to 3-55.

By the end of Nov, this had killed three planes and made 7.5 million metres of cloth more than earmarked for South Viet Nam. These achievements have opened up good prospects and it is expected, the textile branch will have well discharged its task: fulfilling the 1966 State plan for the North Vietnamese people and turning out 10 million metres of cloth as gifts for the Southern kith and kin.

The feat accomplished by the textile branch is first of all a victory of the line of wartime economic reorientation of the party, people and government and at the same time a victory of the North-South kindred solidarity for the sake of national independence and reunification.

## THE REAR AND THE FRONT-LINE

Families of army-men enjoy the affection, respect and assistance of the villages. Last year when he was about to join the army, Bao was told that he would have no need to do some repair to his house. The co-op chairman said: "You can rest assured that we will see to it that everything goes well for you." Next day the co-op earmarked a sum of money for the purchase of the necessary materials. Bao's family enlarged his 3-room house into a 5-room house.

Mme (Just from a family of army-men) has been evacuated. The co-op gives her a monthly grant to buy rice and looks after her when she falls ill. When Bao has a son named Chuang serving with the army, the co-op gave her a decent burial. Chuang's wife has a monthly grant to buy rice and looks after her when she falls ill. When Bao has a son named Chuang serving with the army, the co-op gave her a decent burial. Chuang's wife has a monthly grant to buy rice and looks after her when she falls ill.

They often get field training, including marches in the rain, to get the soldiers used to the hardships of the militia forces. Every month, they have a "few days" drilling. They are fully prepared to go to the front lines when necessary and are in a position to go into action with their outfit.

For the formation of more reserve detachments, schools in X. Hanh have been organising political education and physical training for the youth. The "grandpa guerrillas" led by 58-year-old Truong has produced hundreds

of spikes and many spears and swords for the militia. The women's plant, logistics for instance. Apart from a permanent aerial-bombing team, HX has formed a detachment of reservists ready to replace the regular army. They are chosen by the villages, production teams and organisations and by the same people.

Families of army-men enjoy the affection, respect and assistance of the villages. Last year when he was about to join the army, Bao was told that he would have no need to do some repair to his house. The co-op chairman said: "You can rest assured that we will see to it that everything goes well for you." Next day the co-op earmarked a sum of money for the purchase of the necessary materials. Bao's family enlarged his 3-room house into a 5-room house.

Every year, on red-letter days, the village sends detachments of militia men with gifts. At the

## HEROIC TRADITION #X

French aggression during the 1940-45 Resistance war. In the U.S. war of destruction, all inhabitants of the village, including a village in Ha Tay province lies on the bank of the Day River with pools of clean and soft water, all day long, fill the air with the clicking of shuffles opening for the mosquito-netting mist. Straight gold ricefields touch either bank of the river and with ever-green trees, which stand moving in its entrance to the village, the war memorial of the village blossoms all the year round. At the other end of the village, a few hundred years old, a tree named "Traditional Malaya" on which, bar Almond Tree, a 50-year-old, Lan Tien Lung, now alternate member of the C.C. Party, and a 100-year-old, Lam Thanh Ky, Party and Chief of General Staff of the Viet Nam People's Liberation Army, stand in the first time amidst a hammer-and-sickle flag. Farther, a 100-year-old, a tree named "Traditional Malaya" on which, bar Almond Tree, a 50-year-old, Lan Tien Lung, now alternate member of the C.C. Party, and a 100-year-old, Lam Thanh Ky, Party and Chief of General Staff of the Viet Nam People's Liberation Army, stand in the first time amidst a hammer-and-sickle flag. Farther, a 100-year-old, a tree named "Traditional Malaya" on which, bar Almond Tree, a 50-year-old, Lan Tien Lung, now alternate member of the C.C. Party, and a 100-year-old, Lam Thanh Ky, Party and Chief of General Staff of the Viet Nam People's Liberation Army, stand in the first time amidst a hammer-and-sickle flag.

Let us see how the village has been able to supply the front-line with hundreds of tons. Outpulsed by the U.S. war of aggression, the village has 1.4 million metres in 1954 to 7.5 million metres in 1967. The village has been able to supply the front-line with hundreds of tons. Outpulsed by the U.S. war of aggression, the village has 1.4 million metres in 1954 to 7.5 million metres in 1967.

Let us see how the village has been able to supply the front-line with hundreds of tons. Outpulsed by the U.S. war of aggression, the village has 1.4 million metres in 1954 to 7.5 million metres in 1967. The village has been able to supply the front-line with hundreds of tons. Outpulsed by the U.S. war of aggression, the village has 1.4 million metres in 1954 to 7.5 million metres in 1967.

Let us see how the village has been able to supply the front-line with hundreds of tons. Outpulsed by the U.S. war of aggression, the village has 1.4 million metres in 1954 to 7.5 million metres in 1967. The village has been able to supply the front-line with hundreds of tons. Outpulsed by the U.S. war of aggression, the village has 1.4 million metres in 1954 to 7.5 million metres in 1967.

Let us see how the village has been able to supply the front-line with hundreds of tons. Outpulsed by the U.S. war of aggression, the village has 1.4 million metres in 1954 to 7.5 million metres in 1967. The village has been able to supply the front-line with hundreds of tons. Outpulsed by the U.S. war of aggression, the village has 1.4 million metres in 1954 to 7.5 million metres in 1967.

Let us see how the village has been able to supply the front-line with hundreds of tons. Outpulsed by the U.S. war of aggression, the village has 1.4 million metres in 1954 to 7.5 million metres in 1967. The village has been able to supply the front-line with hundreds of tons. Outpulsed by the U.S. war of aggression, the village has 1.4 million metres in 1954 to 7.5 million metres in 1967.

Let us see how the village has been able to supply the front-line with hundreds of tons. Outpulsed by the U.S. war of aggression, the village has 1.4 million metres in 1954 to 7.5 million metres in 1967. The village has been able to supply the front-line with hundreds of tons. Outpulsed by the U.S. war of aggression, the village has 1.4 million metres in 1954 to 7.5 million metres in 1967.

## THE REAR CLOSELY LINKED WITH THE FRONT-LINE

fight for the defence of the family. The front-line needs more men, we are prepared to supply 2-3. The village has 1.4 million metres in 1954 to 7.5 million metres in 1967. The village has been able to supply the front-line with hundreds of tons. Outpulsed by the U.S. war of aggression, the village has 1.4 million metres in 1954 to 7.5 million metres in 1967.

fight for the defence of the family. The front-line needs more men, we are prepared to supply 2-3. The village has 1.4 million metres in 1954 to 7.5 million metres in 1967. The village has been able to supply the front-line with hundreds of tons. Outpulsed by the U.S. war of aggression, the village has 1.4 million metres in 1954 to 7.5 million metres in 1967.

fight for the defence of the family. The front-line needs more men, we are prepared to supply 2-3. The village has 1.4 million metres in 1954 to 7.5 million metres in 1967. The village has been able to supply the front-line with hundreds of tons. Outpulsed by the U.S. war of aggression, the village has 1.4 million metres in 1954 to 7.5 million metres in 1967.

fight for the defence of the family. The front-line needs more men, we are prepared to supply 2-3. The village has 1.4 million metres in 1954 to 7.5 million metres in 1967. The village has been able to supply the front-line with hundreds of tons. Outpulsed by the U.S. war of aggression, the village has 1.4 million metres in 1954 to 7.5 million metres in 1967.

fight for the defence of the family. The front-line needs more men, we are prepared to supply 2-3. The village has 1.4 million metres in 1954 to 7.5 million metres in 1967. The village has been able to supply the front-line with hundreds of tons. Outpulsed by the U.S. war of aggression, the village has 1.4 million metres in 1954 to 7.5 million metres in 1967.

fight for the defence of the family. The front-line needs more men, we are prepared to supply 2-3. The village has 1.4 million metres in 1954 to 7.5 million metres in 1967. The village has been able to supply the front-line with hundreds of tons. Outpulsed by the U.S. war of aggression, the village has 1.4 million metres in 1954 to 7.5 million metres in 1967.

fight for the defence of the family. The front-line needs more men, we are prepared to supply 2-3. The village has 1.4 million metres in 1954 to 7.5 million metres in 1967. The village has been able to supply the front-line with hundreds of tons. Outpulsed by the U.S. war of aggression, the village has 1.4 million metres in 1954 to 7.5 million metres in 1967.

fight for the defence of the family. The front-line needs more men, we are prepared to supply 2-3. The village has 1.4 million metres in 1954 to 7.5 million metres in 1967. The village has been able to supply the front-line with hundreds of tons. Outpulsed by the U.S. war of aggression, the village has 1.4 million metres in 1954 to 7.5 million metres in 1967.



it was given a tremendous welcome not only by the 10 million Vietnamese in both parts of the country but also by hundreds of millions of people in the socialist system and other lands. Soviet Premier Leonid Brezhnev and A.N. Kosygin, Premier of the Chinese Government Chou En-lai and leaders of other socialist countries, hailed the NFL political program and the NFL settlement of the Vietnam question.

pay friendly visits to foreign countries. Up to November 1968, the number of delegations had amounted to 405. So far 14 international organizations have been invited to the Front organizations or organs as full-fledged members.

The blue-and-red flag of the Front, with a golden star in the centre, is seen everywhere in the cities. Everywhere the Front's representatives receive lavish honours and the voice of the Front is regarded as the voice of the people.

On November 4, 1968 when the "Shipload for Vietnam" was launched, the French people, many other shipments of aid collected by the people, and the ships that had arrived at Haiphong port, including the shipments sent by the Americans to the NFL. The wellknown painter Rockwell Kent, the author of the book "The Dollars of Lenin Peace Prize to the Vietnamese people," and the famous American actor, Howard Johnson before dying to his friends and relatives near his home, had come to the ship to contribute the money he had saved to the funds in support

.....

He drew attention to the fact that all U.S. attempts to play up the role of the Saigon puppet administration's participation at the Paris Conference were likely to damage the United States itself. The United States, he emphasized, has ended up in a blind alley by supporting the Saigon military junta.

*Van Duong died while Lau*

deserve the solicitude shown

The blue and-red flag of the Front, with a golden star in the centre, is seen in nearly all countries. Everywhere the Front's representatives receive tokens of love and admiration from the voice of the Front is regarded as the voice of justice and freedom. On November 4, 1968 when

He drew attention to the fact that all U.S. attempts to play up the role of the Saigon puppet administration's participation at the Paris Conference were likely to damage the United States itself. The United States, he emphasized, has ended up in a blind alley by supporting the Saigon military junta.

# ON THE LARGE SOUTHERN FRONT

## MILITARY OPERATIONS

In Eastern Nam Bo comprising the provinces surrounding Saigon to the northwest, North, East and South, many fresh PLAF brilliant successes have been reported by Giai Phong Press Agency.

On Dec. 1st, a unit of the PLAF regional forces overran a U.S. encampment in Rach Kien, some 50 km north-northwest of Saigon, in a fierce assault lasting one and a half hours, putting out of action a battalion of the 3rd Brigade of the 1st Infantry Division — the Big Red One — and destroying 7 armored cars.

In Tay Ninh province, at Trang Tron (105 km south — northwest of Saigon) the Americans lost four helicopters shot down on the 2nd of Dec. On the nights of Dec. 3 and 4 the patriots attacked and wiped out a company and decimated another one of the First Air Mobile Cavalry Division.

A dozen kilometres further to the West-southwest of the same place, on Dec. 2 they intercepted a U.S. company, wiped out a squad and mauled two others.

About 40 km north of Saigon, in two consecutive attacks on Nov. 24

and 20 against a U.S. entrenchment, the PLAF killed or wounded 100 G.I.s, destroyed 25 armored trucks and 5 heavy mortars, and shot down 4 helicopters.

South — southwest of Saigon, the PLAF on Dec. 4 heavily damaged a 12,000-ton tanker anchored at Nha Be. It is to be recalled that last Nov., between Saigon and the sea, the patriots sank motor launches of the enemy 6 of which displaced 10,000 tons or more, had been damaged, sunk or burnt by the patriots.

According to the same sources, in the Mekong River delta the PLAF slammed artillery fire into administrative and military installations of the enemy in the Go Cong provincial capital (45 km south of Saigon) on the night of Dec. 4, the provincial capital of Chau Doc (175 km west of Saigon) and surrounding areas on Dec. 4, 5 and 6. On the night of Dec. 5, at a point 5 km of My Tho, a puppet company was wiped out while three of the town's districts centre round the HQ of the 7th puppet division there came under violent fire from the patriots' infantry and artillery.

At the northern end of South Viet

Nam, from Dec. 5 to 8, in the Con Tin area south of the Demilitarized Zone, the PLAF inflicted on the enemy 170 G.I. casualties and destroyed 8 military vehicles during five actions, Giai Phong Press Agency reported.

WESTERN news agencies reported a series of PLAF actions against the enemy across the land between Dec. 5 and 9:

— On Dec. 5 two U.S. companies were fiercely engaged 24 km south of Da Nang, in Dien Ban region, and a U.S. squad was intercepted 14 km north-west of Da Nang;

— On the night of Dec. 5, beside My Tho four other provincial capitals and many other enemy positions, 28 in all, were raided.

— On the night of Dec. 6, 100 shells were fired on the CP of Phong sub-sector (170 km north-northwest of Saigon) 12 on an airport and 15 others on a military training centre near Tay Ninh, 8 on the CP of the Hau Nghia military sector (34 km west-northwest of Saigon).

— On Dec. 7, attacks were mounted against elements of the 9th U.S. Division near Ben Tre (at the

Mekong rivermouths), on U.S. Marines west of Dien Ban (20 km south of Da Nang), a position jointly defended by the U.S. and puppets near Ban Quan (95 km north of Saigon) and the CP of the Cai Nue subsector situated at 270 km west-southwest of Saigon, near the southern most tip of the country (the onslaught on this CP was the 7th attack within 10 days).

— On the night of Dec. 7 two puppet battalions positioned near the Tra Vinh town, 100 km South-west of Saigon in the rivermouths of the Mekong, were assailed.

— On Dec. 8, elements of the Big Red One at 48 km south of Saigon, and puppet troops 200 km south-southwest of Da Nang and U.S. Marines near Dien Ban came under PLAF attacks (the latter strike is reported by AP to have been probably the heaviest since Nov. 20 last);

— On the night of Dec. 8, shellings on the CP of the subsectors of Duc Ton (100 km south-southwest of Saigon), Buon Bo (40 km north-northeast of Saigon, on the High Plateau), the Nha Trang airport (120 km northeast of Saigon) and the basecamp of the U.S. Army at Long Binh (20 km Northwest of Saigon)...

sional politicians to find out and analyze them. In any case, the objective truth is that the Americans began meddling in our affairs around 1950. The French colonialists still held on, but already came to clearly realize that they could never lay hand on our country again. The Americans started helping them, then replaced them when the French only controlled, and on a provisional basis of course, the southern half of our country. We, Vietnamese intellectuals, stood up against the French. In fact, what other course of action to take at the time except to resist with all our strength and energy this flagrant U.S. encroachment on our national rights? There was a cruel distinction, believe me, for not a few among us, they could not but remember that America had herself at one time held high the banner of independence and freedom and not long ago she had taken part in the crushing of fascist bestiality.

The intellectuals of Viet Nam, whether they live in the North or in the South,

(Continued page 7)

## To an American Friend

ON THE OCCASION OF THE 8th FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM NATIONAL FRONT FOR LIBERATION

authorities have begun to admit willingly that nothing could be solved there, without the Front, that authentic representative of our Southern compatriots. I cannot help recalling to mind those far-off days of your stay in Hanoi at a time when the U.S. air force was daily bombing the DRVN and our capital.

It was at this time of year. Our entire people were celebrating the founding anniversary of the South Viet Nam NLF. At the time you did not know much about the Front. In fact you knew so little of it that you asked me why the North had so deeply at heart this political event in the South. But it was precisely because you did not know exactly what the Front was like and sought to understand it that the Viet Nam question has become clear to you, and that has made of you one of those Americans most eager to urge the leaders of your country to stop the war in Viet Nam.

Now again we are celebrating the anniversary of the founding of the South Viet Nam NLF. True, the situation has changed: the U.S.

laurel like Nguyen Huu Tho and at the same time a teacher like me, I told you. He was Nguyen Van Duong and taught at the Faculty of Law in Saigon. He is dead. For the country, if he had been still alive there is no doubt that at that time he would have been serving here like myself or fighting there like Lauyer Nguyen Huu Tho. You wondered whether you had run by chance into a small group of intellectuals who had taken to politics or, if really we, Vietnamese intellectuals, all dedicated ourselves to the struggle and public affairs.

During your sojourn in our country I had on many occasions spoken to you about the three of us. It might be presumed that had the United States not taken the fancy to seize control of at least one part of our country, the

Vietnamese intellectuals would have been, on a Vietnamese territory without any demarcation line, addressing themselves to literary or artistic creation or scientific research, to teaching, attending to patients, calculating, building, manufacturing and what not, just as their counterparts in America and other countries are doing. One might imagine that, in our case, the only peculiarity, if any, is that after nearly a century of foreign domination and nearly ten years of atrocious struggle to recover independence and freedom we must be working with more tenor and to bind more tightly our work to the destiny of our Motherland and the future of our people.

But the Americans have interfered in our country. What are their motives? We would leave it to the profes-

**Defeat the U.S. aggressors, build an independent, democratic, peaceful, neutral and prosperous South Viet Nam!**  
(Excerpt from the Political Programme of the South Viet Nam NLF)

Viet Nam COURIER